


BILL NO. 39 -2009  
AN ORDINANCE

I, LINDA A. KELLEHER, City Clerk of the City of Reading, Pa., do hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original Ordinance passed by the Council of the City of Reading, on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, A. D. 2009. Witness my hand and seal of the said City this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, A. D. 2009.

  
CITY CLERK

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF READING CODIFIED ORDINANCES CHAPTER 10 HEALTH AND SAFETY, SECTION 10-110 ANIMAL BITE INCIDENTS BY BRINGING IT INTO COMPLIANCE WITH STATE REGULATIONS.

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF READING HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Amending the City of Reading Codified Ordinances Chapter 10, Section 10-110 Animal Bite Incidents by bringing it into compliance with State regulations:

**§10-110. Animal Bite Incidents.**

1. Animal bite incidents shall be reported to the, Property Improvement Division and the City Health Officer by the animal owner or the victim providing the name and address of the victim, telephone number if known, age of the victim, the time and the date of the biting incident, the type of animal and the name and address of the attending physician. When known, the report shall include the name and address of the animal owner.

2. ~~It shall be the responsibility of the owner to maintain his animal in a state of premises quarantine for a period of 10 days as a rabies suspect.~~

Any animal which bites or attacks a human being shall be confined in quarters approved by the City's animal control authority or a police officer. The animal shall be detained and isolated in an approved kennel or at the animal owner's property or at another location approved by the investigating officer. Where the animal is detained is at the discretion of the investigating officer. All animals so detained must be isolated for a minimum of ten days. Any costs incurred in the detaining and isolation of the animal shall be paid by the offending animal's owner or keeper or both. If the animal's owner or keeper is not known, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is responsible for all reasonable costs for holding and detaining the animal.

A. Within the 10 day quarantine period, the owner shall arrange to have the animal examined by a licensed veterinarian, and return his signed diagnosis and/or opinion to the Property Improvement Division and the City Health Officer on the notice form provided.

B. In the event that the animal dies within the quarantine period, it shall be the owner's responsibility to report the animal's death to the examining veterinarian and to the Property Improvement Division and the City Health Officer, and further make available the dead carcass for further examination.

C. No person shall destroy, or have destroyed, any animal involved in a biting incident that is being held within the ten day quarantine period, unless approved by the Health Officer.

D. No person shall house, maintain or kennel any animal involved in a biting incident, during the ten day quarantine period, unless the owner or operator or person maintaining such housing facility shall be made aware of the animal biting incident and isolation facilities are provided for the animal.

(Ord. 40-1973, 9/19/1973, §10; as amended by Ord. 14-2001, 5/29/2001)


**SECTION 2.** This ordinance shall be effective ten (10) days after its adoption and approval by the Mayor, in accordance with Section 219 of the City of Reading Home Rule Charter.

Enacted

2009

President of Council

Attest:

  
Linda Kelleher CMC, City Clerk

(City Health Officer & Council Staff)

Submitted to Mayor: 

Date: 7-28-09

Received by the Mayor's Office: 

Date: 7-29-09

Approved by Mayor: 

Date: 7/30/09

Vetoed by Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_